

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to rise with me to honor an outstanding public servant and friend. Sepi Richardson will be missed and appreciated for all the lasting contributions she has made to the residents of Brisbane and beyond.

THE DEATH OF GEORGIA STATE  
REPRESENTATIVE WILLIAM  
QUINCY MURPHY

**HON. JOHN BARROW**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 2, 2013*

Mr. BARROW. Mr. Speaker, I acknowledge with sadness the passing of Representative William Quincy Murphy. Mr. Murphy served Augusta, Georgia, for 11 years in the Georgia State House of Representative.

He was a lifelong public servant, a true statesman, and a good friend.

Our thoughts and prayers are with his wife Dianne, his son Quincy III, and his daughter Jennifer Murphy Morgan.

THE TECHNOLOGY AND RESEARCH  
ACCELERATING NATIONAL SECUR-  
ITY AND FUTURE ECONOMIC  
RESILIENCY (TRANSFER) ACT OF  
2013

**HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 2, 2013*

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the Technology and Research Accelerating National Security and Future Economic Resiliency Act of 2013—or the TRANSFER Act, and yield myself such time as I may consume.

I am proud to be an original co-sponsor of this legislation. It is a good bill that represents a bi-partisan effort to accelerate the transfer of technology from our universities and federal laboratories to the market—creating jobs from federally funded research.

The federal government has strategically invested in R&D with the confidence derived from decades of results that it will yield back a return in the public good that betters the lives of Americans. We cannot minimize the role R&D has played in the prosperity of the United States and we must continue these critical investments.

The next great idea with applications in advanced energy, aeronautics, life sciences, and defense technologies could be sitting on a shelf, and this bill will help the academic community and start-ups to bridge the gap between an innovative idea and a commercially viable technology.

One of the ways this bill helps bridge that gap is by supporting translational research activities such as proof of concept. It will also help to bridge the gap by providing advice, mentoring, and entrepreneurial education to our scientists and engineers. As one would expect, most of our researchers do not have the project management and technology and business development expertise needed to run a business and exposure to this type of expertise is important to creating a successful company.

We need to build innovation ecosystems that sustain long-term and mutually beneficial collaborations between the public and private sectors. Just as we are seeking to commercialize innovative ideas, we have to be willing to take innovative approaches to accelerate technology transfer of federally funded research. As the title of this bill states, accelerating technology transfer and research are key to sustaining our national security and future economic vitality.

This is a good bipartisan bill that should assist universities, research institutions, and national labs help turn R&D into successful, profitable, and sustainable small businesses.

I urge my colleagues to support the TRANSFER Act.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 2, 2013*

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall no. 433 I was unavoidably in a meeting off the Hill at the White House with the President. Had I been present, I would have voted “no”.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. LUIS V. GUTIÉRREZ**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 2, 2013*

Mr. GUTIÉRREZ. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent in the House Chamber for votes on Tuesday, July 30. Had I been present, I would have voted “yea” on rollcall vote 419, “yea” on rollcall vote 420, and “nay” on rollcall vote 421, “nay” on rollcall vote 422, “yea” on rollcall vote 423, “yea” on rollcall vote 424, and “yea” on rollcall vote 425.

DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS FOR  
FISCAL YEAR 2014, H.R. 2397

**HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 2, 2013*

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, although the legislation before us today is far from perfect, I rise in support of its passage. The Fiscal Year 2014 Defense Appropriations Act (H.R. 2397) will ensure that our brave men and women in uniform have the resources they need to keep our country safe and secure. The bill also provides funding to support the U.S. industrial base. Lastly, H.R. 2397 includes important provisions to assist our troops and their families, including a pay-raise of 1.8 percent, and strengthens the health care services available to all our service members.

As a member of the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Defense, I have worked diligently this past year to ensure funding for members of the U.S. Military, preserve our military readiness, and target wasteful Pentagon programs. While I am in favor of the un-

derlying legislation, I am deeply disappointed that nearly all of the mandated across-the-board cuts were shifted to other parts of our Federal budget, leaving the Pentagon relatively unscathed. In fact, the bill provides more funding than originally requested in the President's budget proposal, which further demonstrates the House Republicans' misplaced budget priorities.

Mr. Speaker, I am serious about confronting the fiscal crisis facing America. Being an Appropriator, I take seriously my job of eliminating unnecessary spending and ineffective programs in every appropriations bill within every federal agency—including the Pentagon. This year's process was unlike past budgeting years. The House Appropriations Committee operated under the unreasonable constraints of the funding allocations imposed by House Republicans, which needlessly starve the discretionary budget. These allocations force Congress to make reckless trade-offs between adequately funding the Pentagon and providing sufficient funding for the rest of our Federal government. This is not only economically harmful, but also an irresponsible way to operate as a legislative body.

The exponential growth of the Pentagon Budget since 2001 is due primarily to the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. Now that the Iraq War has ended and as we withdraw our combat troops from Afghanistan next year, it is time to significantly reduce the size of the Pentagon budget in a responsible way. During consideration of this bill, I voted in favor of numerous common-sense amendments aimed at saving the government hundreds of billions of dollars. With my support, the House passed two separate amendments that reduced the Afghanistan Security and Afghanistan Infrastructure funds by nearly a half a billion dollars. In addition, I voted in favor of an amendment offered by Congressman VAN HOLLEN, which reduces the Pentagon's war funding account by \$3.5 billion over the next year.

We also debated and voted on important amendments related to national security and civil liberties. The most notable of these being measures to curb the National Security Agency's (NSA) blanket collection of Americans' telephone records. Since the Patriot Act originally passed under former President George W. Bush, Congress has regularly reauthorized it without subjecting the NSA and other government agencies to proper oversight. This enabled the NSA to abuse two of its provisions, Sections 702 and 215, by using them to justify unwarranted surveillance of law-abiding U.S. citizens both domestically and abroad. This is simply unacceptable. Congress has an obligation to conduct strong oversight of our national security policies and when necessary, take corrective action through the legislative process.

That is why I welcomed the floor debate and supported the “Amash-Conyers” amendment, which aimed to restrict the NSA's ability to collect bulk telecommunications records pursuant to Section 215 of the Patriot Act. Furthermore, it would have imposed stricter, more robust judicial oversight of the Federal government's surveillance programs. Even though the amendment narrowly failed by a vote of 205–217, its strong bipartisan support sends a clear message to the White House that Congress is ready and willing to implement much needed reforms. It is absolutely essential that